UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/50/773
S/1995/976
21 November 1995

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 55
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 21 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force.

From 30 October to 3 November 1995, a number of F-16 fighter aircraft of the Turkish Air Force flew repeatedly in the Nicosia FIR without any prior notification or permission from the appropriate authorities of the Republic of Cyprus, violating international air traffic rules and endangering civil aviation flights over Cyprus.

The violations of the Nicosia FIR on 30 October 1995 were as follows:

1. Five formations of F-16 fighter aircraft flew in the Nicosia FIR from 0900 to 1130 hours. During these flights, the F-16s were refuelled by another aircraft.

2. From 1110 to 1120 hours, another formation of two F-16s flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 11,800 to 22,700 feet and at a speed of 442 to 495 knots.

3. From 1120 to 1124 hours, a formation of two F-16s flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 17,500 to 22,500 feet and at a speed of 440 to 495 knots.

The following day, 31 October 1995, the violations of the Nicosia FIR by Turkish Air Force fighter aircraft continued as follows:

1. From 1055 to 1059 hours, a formation of two F-16 fighter aircraft flew in the Nicosia FIR, flying at an altitude of 15,700 feet and at a speed of 405 knots.

2. From 1115 to 1120, a second formation of two F-16 fighter aircraft flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 15,700 feet and at a speed of 485 knots.

On 3 November 1995, the violations of the Nicosia FIR by Turkish Air Force F-16 fighter aircraft continued as follows:

1. From 1053 to 1107 hours, a formation of two Turkish Air Force fighter aircraft flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 20,000 feet and at a speed of 400 to 500 knots.

2. From 1108 to 1115 hours, a second formation of two Turkish fighter aircraft flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 17,000 to 25,000 feet and at a speed of 439 to 512 knots.

3. From 1113 to 1118 hours, a third formation of two Turkish fighter aircraft flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 22,000 feet and at a speed of 480 knots.

4. From 1020 to 1130 hours, three formations of Turkish Air Force fighter aircraft and a tanker flew in the Nicosia FIR at an altitude of 11,000 to 24,000 feet and at a speed of 405 to 513 knots.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish strongly to protest against these violations of the Nicosia FIR and of the Republic's airspace by Turkish Air Force aircraft. These violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and to the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations